



## Enable us to expand our baselining and monitoring work

*This work underpins demonstrating the impact of nature-led recovery so is the most important element in our Projects for Nature project.*

Recording the current diversity and abundance of species and habitats on the Heal Somerset site and then monitoring changes over time are critical to showing the amazing impact of nature-led methods for ecosystem recovery. We are determined that our programme develops to become an exemplar in the UK.

We have already raised £30,000 in donations for a programme of baselining work in 2023/2024 but there is still the opportunity to significantly expand the scope and duration of this work. With your support, we could do this.

We have already designed our baselining and long-term monitoring programme and have devised the strategy for managing the land, including considering which species we might reintroduce in the early stages and wetland restoration works.

Our current practice and aim is always to collect high-quality ecological data which can be shared with other rewilding projects and researchers to benefit the wider sector. Survey need to be fully compliant with all relevant legislation, technical standards and guidance and coordinated with external specialists. This funding would enable us to further develop our long-term ecological monitoring programme to track the progress of the rewilding project over time, ensuring that surveys are well-designed and continue to produce high-quality data that reliably tracks changes in species abundance/diversity and habitat composition. Replicability is essential as we need to be able to show robust evidence for impact. Through this support, we also want to secure a source of funding for the next five years so that surveys can be repeated at appropriate intervals. The learning from this work will then be applied to future Heal sites in other counties and shared with other nature recovery projects via the Rewilding Britain Network.

### **Impact**

Provision of robust, site-wide surveys, providing a baseline from which to measure changes as the land rewilds.

